

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-24 (Canceled).

Claim 25 (New): An image processing apparatus comprising:

a communication unit that communicates with an external device;

an image data receiving unit that receives image data;

an image data storage unit that stores the image data;

a distribution unit that distributes the image data to the external device via the communication unit;

a color determination unit that determines whether the image data received by the image data receiving unit is full-color data or monochrome data;

a color conversion unit that performs color conversion on the image data that has been subjected to determination by the color determination unit and stored in the image data storage unit;

a format conversion unit that converts a format of the image data that has been subjected to the color conversion by the color conversion unit into a format compatible with the external device;

a color conversion change unit that changes the color conversion by the color conversion unit based on a result of determination by the color determination unit; and

a format change unit that changes the format into which the format conversion unit converts the format of the image data based on the result of the determination by the color determination unit, wherein

the distribution unit distributes the image data the format of which has been converted by the format conversion unit to the external device via the communication unit.

Claim 26 (New): The image processing apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the color conversion change unit changes a parameter used in the color conversion by the color conversion unit based on the result of the determination by the color determination unit.

Claim 27 (New): The image processing apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the color conversion change unit changes a method of the color conversion by the color conversion unit based on the result of the determination by the color determination unit.

Claim 28 (New): The image processing apparatus according to claim 25, further comprising a format change inhibiting unit that inhibits, upon determining that the image data includes both full-color data and monochrome data, the format change unit to change the format.

Claim 29 (New): The image processing apparatus according to claim 28, further comprising a format change inhibiting necessity selecting unit that selects whether to allow the format change inhibiting unit to inhibit the format change unit to change the format.

Claim 30 (New): The image processing apparatus according to claim 28, further comprising a format setting unit that changeably sets the format into which the format conversion unit converts the format of the image data, wherein

when the format change inhibiting unit inhibits the format change unit to change the format, the format conversion unit converts the format of the image data stored in the image data storage unit into the format set by the format setting unit.

Claim 31 (New): An image processing apparatus comprising:

a communication unit that communicates with an external device;
an image data receiving unit that receives image data;
an image data storage unit that stores the image data;
a distribution unit that distributes the image data to the external device via the communication unit;

a color determination unit that determines whether the image data received by the image data receiving unit is full-color data or monochrome data;

a gamma correction unit that performs gamma correction on the image data that has been subjected to determination by the color determination unit and stored in the image data storage unit;

a format conversion unit that converts a format of the image data that has been subjected to the gamma correction by the gamma correction unit into a format compatible with the external device;

a gamma correction change unit that changes the gamma correction by the gamma correction unit based on a result of determination by the color determination unit; and

a format change unit that changes the format into which the format conversion unit converts the format of the image data based on the result of the determination by the color determination unit, wherein

the distribution unit distributes the image data the format of which has been converted by the format conversion unit to the external device via the communication unit.

Claim 32 (New): The image processing apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the gamma correction change unit changes gamma correction data used in the gamma correction by the gamma correction unit based on the result of the determination by the color determination unit.

Claim 33 (New): The image processing apparatus according to claim 31, further comprising a format change inhibiting unit that inhibits, upon determining that the image data includes both full-color data and monochrome data, the format change unit to change the format.

Claim 34 (New): The image processing apparatus according to claim 33, further comprising a format change inhibiting necessity selecting unit that selects whether to allow the format change inhibiting unit to inhibit the format change unit to change the format.

Claim 35 (New): The image processing apparatus according to claim 33, further comprising a format setting unit that changeably sets the format into which the format conversion unit converts the format of the image data, wherein

when the format change inhibiting unit inhibits the format change unit to change the format, the format conversion unit converts the format of the image data stored in the image data storage unit into the format set by the format setting unit,

Claim 36 (New): An image processing apparatus comprising:
a communication unit that communicates with an external device;
an image data receiving unit that receives image data;
an image data storage unit that stores the image data;
a distribution unit that distributes the image data to the external device via the communication unit;
a color determination unit that determines whether the image data received by the image data receiving unit is full-color data or monochrome data;

a halftone processing unit that performs halftone processing on the image data that has been subjected to determination by the color determination unit and stored in the image data storage unit;

a format conversion unit that converts a format of the image data that has been subjected to the halftone processing by the halftone processing unit into a format compatible with the external device;

a halftone processing change unit that changes the halftone processing by the halftone processing unit based on a result of determination by the color determination unit; and

a format change unit that changes the format into which the format conversion unit converts the format of the image data based on the result of the determination by the color determination unit, wherein

the distribution unit distributes the image data the format of which has been converted by the format conversion unit to the external device via the communication unit.

Claim 37 (New): The image processing apparatus according to claim 36, wherein the halftone processing change unit changes a method of the halftone processing by the halftone processing unit based on the result of the determination by the color determination unit.

Claim 38 (New): The image processing apparatus according to claim 36, further comprising a halftone processing inhibiting unit that inhibits, upon determining that the image data includes both full-color data and monochrome data, the halftone processing change unit to change the halftone processing.

Claim 39 (New): The image processing apparatus according to claim 38, further comprising a halftone processing inhibiting necessity selecting unit that selects whether to

allow the halftone processing inhibiting unit to inhibit the halftone processing change unit to change the halftone processing.

Claim 40 (New): The image processing apparatus according to claim 36, further comprising a format change inhibiting unit that inhibits, upon determining that the image data includes both full-color data and monochrome data, the format change unit to change the format.

Claim 41 (New): The image processing apparatus according to claim 40, further comprising a format change inhibiting necessity selecting unit that selects whether to allow the format change inhibiting unit to inhibit the format change unit to change the format.

Claim 42 (New): The image processing apparatus according to claim 40, further comprising a format setting unit that changeably sets the format into which the format conversion unit converts the format of the image data, wherein

when the format change inhibiting unit inhibits the format change unit to change the format, the format conversion unit converts the format of the image data stored in the image data storage unit into the format set by the format setting unit.